

LISTING OF CLAIMS

59. (Currently Amended) An insert earphone comprising:

a housing including a hollow tubular portion;

a cable including a plurality of electrical conductors from an electrical audio signal source external to the housing;

a receiver mounted with the housing for transducing electrical energy received into sound energy, the receiver communicating sound energy to the hollow tubular portion of the housing;

an acoustic damper disposed in the hollow tubular portion of the housing, sound energy being propagated between the receiver and the acoustic damper through the hollow tubular portion of the housing;

_____ a resilient sealing member coupled with and extending from the hollow tubular portion of the housing for sealing with and passing sound energy through an ear canal of a wearer; and

_____ the insert earphone extending into and substantially acoustically sealing the ear canal of the wearer when inserted such that the insert earphone is supported by the ear of the wearer, the acoustic damper and receiver response compensating for loss of external ear resonance and coupling resonance that otherwise would occur, when the insert earphone is

inserted into the ear canal of the wearer to thereby assist in providing a high fidelity response while the receiver is in close proximity to the ear canal without requiring a long flexible tube between the hollow tubular portion of the housing and the resilient sealing member.

60. (Currently Amended) The insert earphone of claim 59 further comprising a resilient material, wherein the housing further includes an end wall and at least one interior wall, wherein the tubular portion extends from the end wall, and wherein the resilient material is disposed between the receiver and at least one wall of the housing.

61. (Original) The insert earphone of claim 60 wherein the resilient material comprises a resilient insert.

62. (Original) The insert earphone of claim 60 wherein the resilient material inhibits movement of the receiver relative to the housing.

63. (Currently Amended) The insert earphone of claim 61 wherein the resilient insert assists in providing an acoustical seal between a hollow body portion of the housing and the hollow tubular portion of the housing.

64. (Original) The insert earphone of claim 59 wherein the receiver is supported within the housing.

65. (Currently Amended) The insert earphone of claim 59 wherein the receiver is supported within the housing and has a sound outlet port extending partially into the hollow tubular portion of the housing in a closely conforming manner.

66. (Previously Presented) The insert earphone of claim 65 wherein the sound outlet port extending partially into the hollow tubular portion directly contacts a surface of the hollow tubular portion.

67. (Original) The insert earphone of claim 59 wherein the resilient sealing member has at least one outwardly projecting flange portion.

68. (Currently Amended) The insert earphone of claim 67, wherein the resilient sealing member includes a plurality of outwardly projecting flange portions of generally conical form and of progressively increasing diameters.

69. (Original) The insert earphone of claim 59 further comprising a filter electrically coupled to an electrical audio signal source external to the housing, the filter for receiving electrical signals from the audio signal source and for modifying frequency components of the electrical signals received.

70. (Original) The insert earphone of claim 69 wherein modifying frequency components of the electrical signals received comprises increasing high frequency components of the electrical signals received.

71. (Original) The insert earphone of claim 69 wherein the filter is located in a junction box external to the housing.

72. (Original) The insert earphone of claim 69 wherein the filter is located in the housing.

73. (Cancelled)

74. (Cancelled)

75. (Cancelled)

76. (New) The insert earphone of claim 66, wherein the housing further includes an end wall, wherein the tubular portion extends from the end wall, wherein the sound outlet port extends from an end of the receiver and includes a first end and a second end, wherein the first end extends partially into the hollow tubular portion and directly contacts a surface of the hollow tubular portion, and wherein the resilient material is disposed between the end of the receiver and the end wall of the housing and flanks only the second end of the sound outlet port.

77. (New) The insert earphone of claim 61, wherein the resilient insert includes a first portion and a second portion, and wherein the first and second portions are folded back and compressed between the receiver and at least one interior wall of the housing when the receiver is inserted toward the end wall of the housing.

78. (New) A dual earphone assembly comprising:

a connector configured to be connected to an output of a stereophonic amplifier;

a pair of cables configured to connect the connector to a pair of insert earphones configured to produce high fidelity stereophonic reproduction based on the output of a stereophonic amplifier and substantially acoustically seal both ear canals of a wearer, each insert earphone comprising:

a housing having a hollow tubular portion;

a receiver mounted with the housing for transducing electrical energy received into sound energy, the receiver communicating sound energy to the hollow tubular portion of the housing;

an acoustic damper disposed in the hollow tubular portion of the housing, sound energy being propagated between the receiver and the acoustic damper through the hollow tubular portion of the housing;

a resilient sealing member coupled with and extending from the hollow tubular portion of the housing for sealing with and passing sound energy through an ear canal of a wearer; and

the insert earphones extending into and substantially acoustically sealing the ear canals of the wearer when inserted such that each insert earphone is supported by an ear of the wearer, the acoustic damper and receiver response compensating for loss of external ear resonance and coupling resonance that otherwise would occur, when the insert earphones are inserted into the ear canals of the wearer to thereby assist in providing a high fidelity stereophonic response while the receivers are in close proximity to the ear canals without either insert earphone requiring a long flexible tube between the hollow tubular portion of the housing and the resilient sealing member.

79. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 78, wherein each insert earphone further includes a resilient material, wherein the housing further includes an end wall and at least one interior wall, wherein the tubular

portion extends from the end wall, and wherein the resilient material is disposed between the receiver and at least one wall of the housing.

80. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 79, wherein the resilient material comprises a resilient insert.

81. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 79, wherein the resilient material inhibits movement of the receiver relative to the housing.

82. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 80, wherein the resilient insert assists in providing an acoustical seal between a hollow body portion of the housing and the hollow tubular portion of the housing.

83. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 78, wherein the receiver of each insert earphone is supported within the housing.

84. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 78, wherein the receiver of each insert earphone is supported within the housing and has a sound outlet port extending partially into the hollow tubular portion of the housing in a closely conforming manner.

85. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 84, wherein the sound outlet port extending partially into the hollow tubular portion directly contacts a surface of the hollow tubular portion.

86. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 78, wherein the resilient sealing member of each insert earphone has at least one outwardly projecting flange portion.

87. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 86, wherein the resilient sealing member of each insert earphone includes a plurality of outwardly projecting flange portions of generally conical form and of progressively increasing diameters.

88. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 78, further comprising a filter configured to be electrically coupled to a stereophonic amplifier external to the housings of the insert earphones, the filter for receiving electrical signals from the stereophonic amplifier and for modifying frequency components of the electrical signals received.

89. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 88, wherein modifying frequency components of the electrical signals received comprises increasing high frequency components of the electrical signals received.

90. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 88, wherein the filter is located in a junction box external to the housings of the insert earphones.

91. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 88, wherein the filter is located in each of the housings of the insert earphones.

92. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 85, wherein the housing of each insert earphone further includes an end wall, wherein the tubular portion extends from the end wall, wherein the sound outlet port extends from an end of the receiver and includes a first end and a second end, wherein the first end extends partially into the hollow tubular portion and directly contacts a surface of the hollow tubular portion, and wherein the resilient material is disposed between the end of the receiver and the end wall of the housing and flanks only the second end of the sound outlet port.

93. (New) The dual earphone assembly of claim 80, wherein the resilient insert of each insert earphone includes a first portion and a second portion, and wherein the first and second portions are folded back and compressed between the receiver and at least one interior wall of the housing when the receiver is inserted toward the end wall of the housing.

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan M. Rushman

Reg. No. 55,870

McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.
500 West Madison Street
34th Floor
Chicago, IL 60661
Telephone: (312) 775-8096
Facsimile: (312) 775-8100